

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 ORM-03 SR-02 AID-20 TRSE-00

OMB-01 ABF-01 L-03 H-03 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SY-10 OPR-02 PRS-01 SAM-01 SPC-03

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 /179 R

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R 062244Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 025207

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SREF, UNRWA, XF

SUBJECT: UNRWA WORKING GROUP

REF: USUN 381

1. DEPT SERIOUSLY CONCERNED BY POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF CURRENT UNRWA FINANCIAL CRISIS AND IS SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING WAYS USG MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP. HOWEVER, WE NOT YET IN POSITION TO COMMENT MEANINGFULLY TO WORKING GROUP ON STEPS WHICH MIGHT BE TAKEN. THUS SUGGEST MISSION ADOPT LISTENING POSTURE AT FEB 7 MEETING AND STEER DISCUSSION OF FURTHER WORKING GROUP EFFORTS ALONG LINES INDICATED BELOW.

2. WE NOTE TENDENCY OF UN AND UNRWA OFFICIALS TO LOOK PRIMARILY, IF NOT PRINCIPALLY, TO USG TO COVER UNRWA
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DEFICIT. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MORE HELPFUL, REGARDLESS

WHAT USG EVENTUALLY DECIDES, TO ENCOURAGE UNRWA AND UN TO LOOK TO UN MEMBERSHIP AS A WHOLE OR AT LEAST TO WORKING GROUP MEMBERS, TO HELP RESOLVE CURRENT FINANCIAL CRISIS. WE WOULD FAVOR, FOR EXAMPLE, SYG LETTER TO ALL UN MEMBERS APPEALING FOR FUNDS ON BASIS APPRAISAL OF COMGEN RENNIE MENTIONED USUN 390. ALSO, WE WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO FURTHER APPEAL BY WORKING GROUP (PERHAPS CIRCULATED TO UN MISSIONS RATHER THAN IN CAPITALS) EVEN THOUGH SUCH APPEALS HAVE NOT PRODUCED SIGNIFICANT RESULTS IN PAST. OBVIOUSLY, MULTILATERAL EFFORTS ALONG THESE LINES AND, HOPEFULLY, SOME SHOW OF INTEREST OR SUPPORT FROM OTHER UN MEMBERS

WOULD BE marginally helpful backdrop for whatever DEPT CAN DO RE UNRWA.

3. YOU MAY ALSO INFORM WORKING GROUP THAT IN RESPONSE TO UNRWA'S REQUEST FOR ADVANCE PAYMENT OF REMAINDER OF US FY 74 PLEDGE (DOLS 10.3 MILLION), DEPT IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO PROVIDE ENTIRE AMOUNT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE HOPE OTHER MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS TO UNRWA WILL DO LIKEWISE. KISSINGER

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